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The Pacific

Pacific School of Religion Berkeley, Calif.

86th Year APRIL, 1936 51 No. 4

Laubach's Story Heard By Crowds

Seldom, if ever, has an individual made so deep and wide-spread an impression as did Dr. Frank C. Laubach during his brief stay in Northern California. He gave about eighteen addresses in the less than eight days, reaching many hundreds of people. He was particularly effective with men. At the conclusion of his address at the San Jose Lions' Club, the men rose to their feet giving him a tremendous ovation. Following every address crowds pressed him on every side, among them many young people seeking to have a word of counsel and encouragement. Possessed of a splendid voice, and understanding well the psychology of audiences, he is an able speaker, but the thing that gives him his great power is his absolute sincerity and his transparent loyalty to the cause of Christ.

The story which he relates is fascinating. It is almost unbelievable that people can be taught to read in just a few hours of time, but the facts are well attested. Small wonder that people who so quickly come into the possession of the power to read become flaming apostles, giving their fellow men the same privilege and thus by geographical progression making it possible for whole populations to become literate.

After two years spent under the Carnegie Foundation and working out language charts in many other lands, he will return to the Philippine Islands. In northern California we shall look forward to his next furlough.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 13—Meeting of Conference Board of Directors, budget and appropriations to be considered and voted.
April 28—Bay Association, Fruitvale Church, Oakland.
April 29—Central Association, Salida.
April 30—Upper Bay Association, Pittsburg.
May 1—Sacramento Valley Association, Reno, Nevada.
May 5—Santa Clara Association, San Jose.
May 6—Redwood Empire Association, Petaluma.
May 7—Commencement, Pacific School of Religion.
May 8—San Joaquin Association, Tulare.
May 11-13—Southern California Congregational Conference annual meeting, Los Angeles.
June 4-7—Visit of Toyohiko Kagawa to Bay region (see special article for schedule).
June 16-24—General Council of Congregational-Christian Churches, Mt. Holyoke, Mass.
June 22 to July 3—Institute of International Relations, Mills College.
June 25-28—California Christian Endeavor Union State Convention at San Jose.
July 11-18 — Missionary Education Movement Conference, Asilomar.
July 25 to August 1—Young People's Conference, Asilomar.
August 9-15—Young People's Institute, Lokoya.
October 27-29—State Conference, San Jose.
November 8-11—National Preaching Mission, San Francisco and East Bay.

A SECOND YEAR OF VICTORY

ARE WE DOWNHEARTED? NO! ARE WE HAPPY? YES!

Readers will quickly guess the cause. The fiscal year of the Conference and Home Missionary Society came to a close on March 31 with a SURPLUS in the treasury instead of a DEFICIT. This surplus was small, very small, in comparison with the total expenditures, and with the deficits of some years, but it is a SURPLUS nevertheless, and for the second successive year.

The budget adopted one year ago by the Board of Directors called for expenditures for the 12 months of $25,971.40. It was the least that could be voted in the face of the great needs of our work. The expected income was $25,717.00, which meant an expected deficit of $254.41. As our readers know, the gifts from the churches declined still further, a total of about $1200.00. However, three factors put us over the top: 1. Economy in operation. We spent $1244.47 less than the budget. 2. Some of our invested funds resumed their earnings. 3. The fine response of individuals to the Special Deficit Fund during the last few days of March bringing in over $600.00.

Here is the story of the past five years:

Fiscal year ending March 31, 1932: Deficit $5,583.20.
" " " " " 1933: Deficit $2,495.75.
" " " " " 1934: Deficit $1,316.39.
" " " " " 1935: Surplus $ 145.37.
" " " " " 1936: Surplus $ 106.36.

Our own state Ministers' Relief Society also made a better showing, closing the year with a surplus of $47.06 whereas there was a deficit a year ago of $307.29.

Our gratitude is hereby expressed to churches, pastors, and treasurers for their prompt remittance of benevolent funds, and to the many friends who contributed to the Special Deficit Fund.

PREACHING MISSION

San Francisco and the Bay region are to be visited in November by some of the foremost preachers of America and the world. The department of evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches is sponsoring a preaching mission, which will reach 25 metropolitan areas in the country. The dates for San Francisco and vicinity are November 8 to 11.

Among those who will participate are Dr. E. Stanley Jones of India, Miss Muriel Lester, Dr. Lynn Harold Hough, Dr. A. W. Beaven, Dr. Ivan Lee Holt, Dr. Paul Scherer, and our own Dr. Douglas Horton, pastor of the United Church of Hyde Park, Chicago, and translator of the works of Karl Barth. Other noted preachers are being enlisted. The purpose of the Mission, as adopted, is as follows:

"Forasmuch as an authentic Christianity is a perpetual act of judgment, it shall be the object of this Mission to understand and apply that judgment in respect of the individual, the church, and contemporary life, with courage enough to accept it when it comes to our generation as condemnation, and humility enough to appropriate it when it comes to us as grace.

The Mission, therefore, solemnly conscious on the one hand of the devastating power of sin in human lives, and on the other triumphantly aware of the redeeming, transforming grace of God in Christ, shall seek . . .
to teach and preach in its fulness the Gospel of our Common Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ;
to confront through group-contacts and public meetings as well the clear thought and courageous will of the American people as their finer feeling and best tradition;
in a civilization which irreligion is on the verge of destroying, and in the midst of which it has become an imperative necessity in the high cause of the future that Christianity should gird itself for a real struggle, to stress once more the reasonableness of the Christian faith in the Personal God, its aptness to the deepest needs and farthest aspirations of human life, and its redemptive, creating power in the organizing and shaping of a bewildered society toward the standards and ideals of the Kingdom of God."

The plan also contemplates Missions being organized in the different centers to visit smaller communities throughout the state.

Peace Institute at Mills College

Ministers, teachers, and interested citizens of northern California will soon have opportunity of attending a ten-day course of study in international relations. For the second consecutive year, the campus of Mills College will be the scene of this institute, one of nine sponsored in the United States by the Congregational Council for Social Action and the American Friends' Service Committee. The dates will be June 23 to July 3.

The purpose of this institute is to meet in three specific ways the needs of those who are interested in creating better international understanding: (1) to give a basis of fact concerning the causes of war as they exist in the present world turmoil; (2) to study the significance of war as a religious and ethical problem; (3) to investigate the methods of peace work which individuals may follow in their own communities.

According to the preliminary program released this week, courses and round tables will include the following topics: Pacific affairs; Spiritual and Ethical aspects of War and Peace; International Economic Relations; Communism, Fascism, Democracy; What Traditional American Policies should be Abandoned or revised?; What is National Security?; The Need for Expansion; European Relations.

Among the many prominent people who will lead the institute are Dr. George Blakeslee of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., adviser for the Lytton Commission sent to Manchuria by the League of Nations in 1931; Dr. Carl Landauer, visiting lecturer from Germany at the University of California; Miss Dorothy Detzer, national secretary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Washington, D. C.; Mr. Alden G. Alley, who has studied extensively in Europe almost every year since the World War and who has attended ten sessions of the League of Nations Assembly; Dr. Elbert Russell, Dean of the School of Religion at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, and author; and Dr. Howard Brinton, director of Child Feeding in upper Silesia after the war, now Professor of Religion at Mills College.

Other speakers are already engaged, and more will be added later. A tuition fee of $10 covers the entire institute, and those who wish to stay at Mills College may do so for a total charge of $17.50 for board and room. Inquiries should be addressed to Joseph W. Conrad, Field Secretary, Mills College, California.

Dr. Clark Comes Direct from Orient

Dr. Alden Hyde Clark, Foreign Secretary of the American Board, will land in San Francisco, from a round-the-world tour, on Tuesday morning, April 28. That same evening he will be the speaker at the Bay Association of Congregational Churches at Fruitvale Congregational Church, Oakland.

REV. ALDEN HYDE CLARK
Missionary, statesman, dynamic speaker, and world traveler, who comes as a visitor to Northern California. He will give the principal address of each Association meeting.

Following this, in company with Superintendent Gill, Dr. Clark will speak at the Central Association at Salada, the Upper Bay Association at Pittsburg, the Sacramento Valley Association at Reno, the Santa Clara Association at San Jose, the Redwood Empire Association at Petaluma, and the San Joaquin Valley Association at Tulare. He will also give the Commencement address at the Pacific School of Religion. He will preach at First Congregational Church, San Francisco, and address the young people at Plymouth Church, Oakland. Schedule of the dates of the Association appears in another column.

Dr. Clark lived in India for 25 years, and he is closely in touch not only with that land but with Ceylon, Spain, Mexico, the Philippine Islands, and the Near East. He knows Mahatma Gandhi personally. He is the founder of the Nagpada Neighborhood House, Bombay, mentioned in the Laymen's Foreign Missions Inquiry as an ideal piece of social service work. He is the author of "India on the March," and "The Social Dynamic of Jesus."

Dr. Clark is an extraordinarily able speaker and Northern California church people will do well to hear him at one or more of his appointments.

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Northern California
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NECK AND NECK

It is a close race with 1935,—1936 ahead by an eyelash. The receipts for March of this year were $67.00 larger than for March a year ago, which brings the total from January 11 to March 31 ahead of the corresponding period of 1935 by less than $4.00. Four churches made remittances during this period in 1936 that were not represented in the 1935 column, whereas nine churches which had contributed in 1935 are not yet represented in 1936. Some of them got their offerings into the Conference office just a day or two after the fiscal year closed.

If straws show the way the wind blows, we may well believe that the future will bring better times and that once again we can talk in terms of progress and new work.

	March 1936	Jan. 11 to Mar. 31,'36	Jan. 11 to Mar. 31,'35
Adin	$	$	$ 28.00
Alameda	127.64	127.64	69.74
Alturas	....	....	7.10
Angels Camp	25.00	25.00	25.00
Antioch	13.80	13.80	8.40
Auburn	25.00	25.00	25.00
Benicia	....	....	1.00
Berkeley, First	583.33	1,242.27	1,083.32
North	150.00	150.00	150.00
Park	18.47	18.47	27.30
Campbell	50.00	50.00	50.00
Ceres	....	....	18.33
Cloverdale	5.55	27.90	24.65
Cotati	6.18	26.18	20.00
Crockett	....	....	25.00
Eureka	15.91	50.49	60.00
Fairfax	....	....	15.00
Ferndale	47.47	52.26	46.16
Fresno, First	63.62	143.79	145.70
Hayfork	....	3.00	....
Hayward	....	....	25.00
Kenwood	7.30	7.30	9.35
Likely	....	5.00	5.00
Lockeford	2.50	2.50	7.00
Lodi, First	100.00	100.00	120.00
Loomis	4.10	7.10	19.35
Martinez	18.05	36.33	39.45
Murphy	40.00	40.00	40.00
Niles	....	10.00	22.20
Oakland, First	450.00	1,226.26	890.82
Fruitvale	5.00	5.00	....
Plymouth	130.00	205.00	170.00
Oroville	30.00	30.00	65.00
Pacific Grove	39.86	72.36	88.25
Palo Alto	50.00	150.00	50.00
Paradise	14.00	29.00	70.70
Petaluma	75.25	151.05	140.31
Pittsburg	....	23.93	19.74
Port Chicago	....	2.65	2.35
Porterville	25.00	25.00	....
Redwood City	100.00	100.00	100.00
Ripon	3.00	8.00	9.00
Sacramento	56.19	156.70	137.70
San Carlos	....	....	10.00
San Francisco, B'th'y-Mis.Pk.	3.00	3.00	110.50
First	257.41	413.51	412.77
Ocean View	5.00	6.83	....
San Jose	60.00	133.00	120.00
San Leandro	8.90	8.90	26.98
Santa Cruz	160.00	160.00	180.00
Santa Rosa	21.04	61.89	68.05
Saratoga	....	....	60.00
Sebastopol	27.23	71.18	61.24
Sonoma	....	....	13.78
Soquel	5.00	5.00	16.00
Stockton	98.51	129.39	139.35
Tulare	95.00	95.00	65.00
Weaverville	15.00	15.00	15.00
Reno, Nevada	40.15	90.05	79.27
Miscellaneous	461.35	491.35	111.00
*Special Deficit Fund	....	....	697.05
	$3,539.81	$6,033.08	$6,029.48

*The contributions to the Special Deficit Fund in 1936 are included with gifts from the churches or in the miscellaneous item.

Copies of Conference Year Book and Directory will be available the middle of April.

KAGAWA'S DATES

People of the Bay area will have the privilege of again seeing and hearing the great Japanese Christian, Toyohiko Kagawa, on June 4 to 7. A tentative schedule for his stay has been announced.

Thursday, June 4, 8:00 p.m.—First Congregational Church, San Francisco.

Friday, June 5, 12:15—Commonwealth Club, San Francisco (Palace Hotel); 2:00 p.m.—Union ministers' meeting, First Congregational Church, San Francisco; 8:00 p.m.—Youth meeting, First Methodist Church, Oakland.

Saturday, June 6, 2:30 p.m.—A discussion of cooperatives, First Methodist Church, Oakland; 8:00 p.m.—A meeting of Japanese in Oakland.

Sunday, June 7, 3:00 p.m.—Oakland Auditorium; 7:45 p.m.—Tenth Avenue Baptist Church.

Leadership Material

The Department of Leadership Training of the Education Society specializes in practical materials and plans for improving the leadership of the local church. Here are four items selected from its extensive program and resources:

1. It has recently begun to issue a "practical service bulletin," **The Pilgrim Leader.** It is sent free several times a year, as finances permit, to one person in each church who may be delegated as responsible for training present and future leaders. See that some one from your church has his name on the list to receive this bulletin.

2. The **First Series Courses** of the New Leadership Curriculum are proving to be just what was hoped of them, if the recent response on the part of local churches is any criterion. These new courses are simple, inexpensive, and easily carried on in **any** church. Educational Bulletin, Number 501, describing them in detail, may be had for ten cents.

3. For several years the Department of Leadership Training has been giving particular attention to helping churches improve their teachers' meetings or workers' conferences. Program materials telling how a meeting may be planned, how it may be conducted, and how it may be made interesting, have been prepared for scores of topics. The most recent of these helps are two printed booklets, **Programs for Workers' Conferences,** Series A and Series B. Each contains detailed guidance and materials for twelve programs. The price is fifty cents each. A few copies of some of the **single** programs in mimeographed form are also available. Why not send five cents and have one of these sample programs sent postpaid?

4. When delegates are sent to summer conferences to receive training for their local church positions of responsibility, it is essential that they go, and return also, in a spirit of anticipation and consecration. Included in the many resource materials of the Leadership Training Department is a "commissioning service" for these church workers entitled **In Fellowship and Training for Service.** A copy of this will be mailed for five cents in stamps.

CHINA'S FOUR CENTERS: Shanghai, the financial capital; Nanking, the political capital; Nanchang, the military capital; Peiping, the cultural capital.

"ABUNDANT LIFE" ASILOMAR THEME

"The Abundant Life" is to be the central theme for the Asilomar Young People's Conference, to be held July 25 to August 1. Planning, program, and promotion are going forward under the leadership of committees of the Pilgrim Fellowship, assisted by Rev. Fred R. Morrow, co-chairman, and Rev. T. T. Giffen, director.

Mrs. Margueritte Harmon Bro, newly appointed staff member of the Council for Social Action, and formerly missionary to China, will hold a prominent place on the faculty. Rabbi Rudolph I. Coffee and Mrs. Coffee will be present at least a part of the time. Mrs. Mabel Hill Redfield, leader of the great choir at Berkeley First Church, will again be in charge of the music. Everett Blake, American Board missionary to Turkey and a graduate of the Pacific School of Religion, will give a course on "Modern Missions." Supt. Harley H. Gill, who at the last moment a year ago was prevented from serving as chaplain, will undertake that responsibility this year.

A series of rallies, throughout the state, are being planned by "Mack" Arlett and Fowler Furze to arouse interest in attendance, and it is expected that motion pictures of Asilomar will be shown.

Rates for the conference are the same as those in effect in recent years, namely, registration $2.00, if mailed to the Conference office not later than July 15 (50c additional for late registrations); the charge on the grounds, including tenthouse accommodations and meals, will be $13.30 for the period.

MEMBERSHIP FIGURES

The report of the registrar of the State Conference has finally gone to the office of the General Council. The total membership of our Northern California churches is now 19,616 which is a gain of 347 over the previous year. A total of 771 were received on confession of faith, and 571 by letter. The total Sunday School enrollment is 12,333, which is a decline of 463. Membership in Young People's Societies totals 4,281, which lacks about 300 of being as many as the previous year.

A cable from China recently received: "Situation has not improved. Miss Flora Heebner, Miss Isabel Hemingway, Robbins Strong, Miss Gladys Williams, Dr. and Mrs. Leonard F. Wilbur and family, in Taiku. Miss Josie Horn, Dr. Walter H. Judd, Miss Mary McClure, Miss Emma Norren, Rev. Harold Matthews in Fenchow. All others have arrived here (Peiping) safely and well. There is no cause for anxiety at present. Mr. Raymond Moyer and Mr. Burton hope to return within a few days." "All the rest" now in Peiping mean: Mr. and Mrs. Myron S. Burton and children, Mrs. Walter H. Judd and children, Mrs. Grace W. Matthews and children, Carl Huber, Mrs. Bertha J. Brown, Miss Bernice Brown, Miss Alzina C. Munger and mother, Miss Frances Cade, Raymond T. Moyer, Mrs. Moyer, Miss Gertrude Cheney, Miss Josephine Hamilton, Miss Louise Moebold and Mrs. Alice M. Williams.

The Fellowship Herald, published by the Bausman Memorial Church of Wyomissing, Pa. has just come to the editor's desk. It is very attractively printed, and carries the picture of a very beautiful church building. Rev. John R. Hahn is the pastor. He will be remembered by many of our Conference as former pastor of our church at Stockton. His work in Pennsylvania is evidently challenging and successful.

CHURCH NOTES

SAN FRANCISCO, GRACE UNITED. The annual meeting of the United Church was held on Wednesday, April 1. Reports from all officers and departments were received and encouraging progress noted. The report of the financial administrator was received with enthusiastic surprise. It showed all salaries met in full for the past year and a very small amount of unpaid bills. Obligations of years previous had been greatly reduced, so that the deficit of $1700 a year ago had been reduced to $700.

SANTA CRUZ. The church held a county fair for two days at the Community Market. Attics had been ransacked, and there were booths for the sale of paints, flowers, books, clothing, art goods, toys, live stock (including a cow, calf, and two pigs), furniture, tools, and cooked food. Including a gift of $250 from a friend of the church the net receipts were $850. Rev. H. S. Mahood is pastor.

MODOC, INDIAN. Mrs. J. C. Jarman, who has been looking after the relief work among the Indians, has sent her report for the first three months of the year. With $42, sent her from the special Indan fund of the Conference, she has purchased 10 pair of hose, 10 pair of shoes, 24 yards of outing flannel, 40 yards of prints and sundry other items. This is making a little money go a long way.

RIPON. The Ladies' Aid Society has been presented with a luncheon set. On St. Patrick's Day the Society gave a tea which was attended by a large number, and a substantial sum was realized from food and fancy work sales. This was followed by a very excellent musical program. Rev. E. L. Spuller is the pastor.

TRINITY COUNTY. An Amateur Hour, presented by the young people of the Weaverville church, was given for the benefit of the Asilomar fund. A Sunday School is now being operated at Junction City. Occasional preaching services will be held there. Rev. J. D. Salmon has had bad roads to contend with all winter.

REEDLEY, FINNISH. This church continues to be served by Rev. Aleksi Raita of Los Angeles, who spends one week out of each month there. A severe loss was sustained in the death of three men and two young women, killed in an automobile accident.

ANTIOCH. The monthly Sunday evening forum continues to draw fine audiences. The last speaker was Dr. M. J. Brickley of Sacramento Junior College. Rev. Henry Stauffer is the pastor.

SALIDA. The young people, following a pot-luck supper of their own planning, were reorganized. Congregations are increasing. Miss Mary Coxhead is temporarily in charge of the work.

BERKELEY, KENSINGTON. An adult class, under the leadership of Miss Florence Runnells, is to be launched the first Sunday of May. Two plays are to be given by the senior Forum. Mr. Wilfred I. Orr is the director.

ANGELS CAMP. The junior young people's group has made a firm start. The church and Sunday School attendances have been above normal. Rev. Glenn H. Corbin is the pastor.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

SOQUEL. On March 22 a large congregation re-dedicated the Little White Church by the Highway in Soquel which has given continuous service to that community for sixty-eight years. Communion Service was conducted by the pastor emeritus, Rev. J. J. Kelly. Hymns were led by a choir representing the oldest families and members of the church. Mrs. Minnie Parrish, Mrs. Horatio Angell, and Mrs. Margaret Rogers gave "Memories of Other Days," and the service closed with a re-dedication ceremony and prayer shared by those present and the paster, Rev. Jessie G. Heath.

Nearly seven hundred dollars has been spent in three years on the church properties, and more than a hundred persons have given time, labor, and money directly to the effort.

The results are, in order of attainment: a vestibule painted and varnished after needed repairs; new lighting fixtures in the church and old ones placed in church hall; aforesaid hall papered, painted, and roof repaired; roofs on church and church hall repaired and painted; primary Sunday School room cleaned by new paint and paper (work done by the young teachers during a high school vacation); new curtains were placed at church windows at a cost of fifty dollars and they called for a new carpet; walls calsomined. The pulpit made by the first pastor sixty-eight years ago has been restored and is a thing of beauty. Gas ranges placed in the church hall kitchen and the parsonage kitchen add much to convenience.

A fund is already being gathered for needed paint on the outside of the church buildings and new chairs are still needed for the choir loft.

STOCKTON. A group of young people has been organized into the Pilgrim Players. Two plays have been presented with great success and another is to be given Easter week. "What Men Live By," a dramatization of Tolstoi's story was presented March 22. Dr. Frank C. Laubach was guest preacher on Sunday, March 22. Prof. George Colliver of the College of the Pacific occupied the pulpit, substituting for Rev. Noel J. Breed, the pastor, during his recent illness.

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH. An all-day conference of young people was held on Sunday, April 5, to study the question of church membership. Young people of junior high, high school, and college age met during the church school hour, attending the morning service, and continued their conference in the afternoon at the Y. M. C. A. cabin at Orinda, under the direction of Mrs. Dorothy Bennett, educational director, and Rev. T. T. Giffen, pastor.

SEBASTOPOL. The combined choirs of the Sonoma and Petaluma churches are to give DuBois' "The Seven Words" on Good Friday evening. Rev. G. E. Atkinson, the pastor, who is delegate to the General Council, has received from the congressman of his district passes and letters of introduction to various places of interest in our national capital.

CAMPBELL. The young people's groups have assumed responsibility for the payment on the building debt for this year, amounting to $220.00. A new group of juniors are in training for the Easter class. Eleven of the junior members have passed into full membership of the church at the age of 18. Rev. J. H. Bennett is pastor.

TULARE. Attracting a crowd which overflowed the available seating space, the women of the Tulare church presented a "Travel Dinner." Guests were seated at ten tables, each of which represented one locality or land where our Congregational church is rendering service. Each of the ten hostesses had decorated her table in keeping with the country represented. Following the dinner, there was a program in which brief mention was made of our work in each land, and music appropriate to that country presented. An exhibit of foreign dolls, and the showing of motion pictures in colors, recently taken in Mexico by Mr. Percy Whiteside, member of the Tulare church, completed a most interesting evening.

The church premises have been greatly improved by a shrubbery planting project. The boys of the High School class with their teacher, Mr. H. J. Beckman, prepared the ground, and many others cooperated. Rev. Arthur L. Rice is pastor.

BERKELEY, FIRST. An all-day conference for young people was held on Sunday, March 29. During the entire day in group meetings and large gatherings, the young people were confronted with the opportunities of Christian service and dedication. The day culminated in an hour of consecration, in which more than 100 signed the scroll, expressing their loyalty to Christ. Among the number were many who enlisted for church membership. The conference was in charge of Rev. O. W. S. McCall, Rev. Fred R. Morrow, director of education, and Rev. Lawrence Cross of the Northbrae Community Church.

ALAMEDA. Rev. Gail Cleland on a recent Sunday morning commented on the small number of men present and asked that the following Sunday be made Men's Day, with at least 100 men in attendance. Eighty-three men actually showed up. Eight ministers of the city participated in a blind exchange of pulpits on Sunday evening, March 29. Dr. Cleland is expecting to go to the Orient this summer and his trip may extend around the world, through Japan, Korea, Manchukuo, Russia and Germany.

PORTERVILLE. One hundred and forty-five people greeted Dr. Fred F. Goodsell on his recent visit, and that on a week night. Improvement of buildings and grounds continues. Silver, dishes, and benches have been added to provide for fifty additional persons. A new automatic hot water heater has been installed in the parsonage, and a new bulletin board for the church constructed. Rev. John H. Gregg, the pastor, is expecting to recieve a large class on Easter Sunday.

PESCADERO. A fund has been raised to redecorate the building, including refinishing the floor, providing runners for the aisles, and re-covring the pew cushions. Rev. J. C. Kelsey, pastor of the Methodist Church of Half Moon Bay, is caring for this field. Supt. Gill preached on Palm Sunday.

OAKLAND, FIRST. During a recent illness of Rev. Clarence Reidenbach, the pastor, Dr. Thomas W. Nadal, president of Drury College, Missouri, was the preacher. Dr. Patton's Bible class in five weeks increased from 15 to 50. The report of the church clerk for 1935 shows 31 men and 75 women received into membership, a net gain for the year of 64.

AMBROSE. In January, as reported in a previous issue of The Pacific, the Upper Bay Association decided that the Congregational denomination was no longer warranted in keeping the church in Ambrose, and made certain recommendations for the disposition of the property. Subsequently, the group desiring to establish a Christian and Missionary Alliance church were unable to fulfill the requirements in taking over the property. The Congregational Church declined to accept the findings of the Association, and asked for further consideration. On March 24, another meeting of the Association was held. Following earnest pleas by certain members, the two groups decided to drop their differences and to undertake to continue as a Community Congregational Church. New officers have been elected and an active search is now on for a pastor.

SAN CARLOS. Mr. Alden A. Read, soon to graduate from the Pacific School of Religion, has been extended a unanimous call to the pastorate of this church, to begin immediately following Easter. At the time of going to press, it seems probable that Mr. Read will accept. Rev. R. B. Cherington, who was instrumental in the organization of the church, and who has been its pastor continuously for the past eight years, will complete his service on Easter Sunday. He will carry with him the affection of the church and the respect and appreciation of the entire community.

PITTSBURG. More than 80 young people of the Pilgrim Fellowship enjoyed a banquet on March 13, with Dr. and Mrs. Jason Noble Pierce of San Francisco, as guests. The room was decked out like a ship, with anchors, lifebuoys, masts, cabin, life boats, rope, and steering wheel. Talks by the young people were about anchors, navigation, pilots, and "Port Asilomar." A junior group has been organized with over 20 members. Rev. E. W. Benedict, the pastor, is much encouraged because of the Pittsburg opportunity.

REDWOOD CITY. Dr. Ralph Larkin occupied the pulpit for three Sundays in March, his final sermon, "Looking Upward, or Man and the Stars and Beyond," being particularly appreciated. The church dinners were resumed on April 1, with Peirce Coombes, chairman of the pulpit committee, in charge. Encouraging reports from various church organizations were received, and the chairman himself gave a stimulating talk on "Prayer."

OAKLAND, FRUITVALE. This church is looking forward to entertaining the Spring meeting of the Bay Association, the first time the Association has met with the Fruitvale Church in many years. Six men made the trip to San Francisco to hear Dr. Laubach. A very attractive Easter letter and announcement is being distributed by the pastor, Rev. J. B. Orr, with invitation to unite with the church on Easter Sunday.

SAN LORENZO. Rev. W. Wallace Furze has been asked to serve this church as pastor until the end of the calendar year. This is the second pastorate for Mr. Furze in this field. During the years intervening he has been a frequent pulpit supply. He will continue to make his home in Piedmont, but will spend Saturday as well as Sunday on the field until further arrangement is made between the church and himself.

BERKELEY, PARK. Passers-by stop in wide-eyed amazement and admiration on account of the building improvements which have been made. Two hundred dollars was raised in the community and some help made possible by the Building Society. A new and very attractive roof has been installed, the first since the erection of the building twenty-five years ago. In addition, the entire exterior has been painted. The work has all been donated. The pastor, Rev. Tom Watt, does not have a Union card but he is some painter as well as preacher. Three of the young people's group were received into church membership, bringing the total to twenty-one since the present plan of young people's work was begun three years ago.

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST. Rev. Jason Noble Pierce is conducting a question drawer on Sunday evening under the caption, "Friendly Philosophy." It is meeting a real need and creating widespread interest. Following Easter it is planned to have motion pictures on Wednesday evenings instead of Sunday. This church continues to be a meeting place for interdenominational gatherings. Dr. Poling was heard in public address recently; the World Fellowship of Faith Conference was held on March 24; Kagawa is to speak in June—to mention a few during the present season.

OROVILLE. A fund to provide a memorial for the late pastor, Rev. W. J. Johnson, has passed all expectations. A beautiful set of chimes has been installed in the organ, with loud speakers in the tower so that the chimes may be used in church service and also as tower chimes. A memorial plaque is also included and a book of remembrances. The fund is sufficient to care for all of this and to leave a substantial balance for maintenance of music. The dedication of the memorial will be conducted by the pastor, Rev. E. G. Brinkmeyer, on Easter Sunday.

EUREKA. The members and organizations of this church are busy planning and working for renovation of the building. It is proposed to paper and varnish the auditorium and lecture hall, and to paint the entryway. At a recent benefit, the charge for dinner was made in accordance with the diner's girth. The pastor is Rev. Charles H. Hudson.

FAIRFAX. Rev. C. L. Mears, pastor, who was in the hospital for three weeks, has returned and is once more active in church and community. During his illness Mrs. Mears directed the work, and the pulpit was cared for by various speakers.

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PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION
PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS
BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Edited by Mrs. W. C. Blasdale

Spring Meeting

The April meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16, at the Pittsburg Congregational Church, 9th and Los Medanos Streets. The morning session will open at 10:30 o'clock. There will be basket lunch at noon, and adjournment will be at 3:00 o'clock. In the morning there will be talks by several of our own secretaries, an address by Mrs. Mary B. Sumner, whose husband was for many years president of Talladega College; and a dramatic reading, "The White Camel," by Mr. Wesley D. Gordon of Niles. In the afternoon an address will be given by Lieutenant Commander Bryant of the U. S. N., on "America's Opportunity."

ST. SOPHIA TODAY

Miss Edith Parsons, Principal of the Girls' School at Ismir (Smyrna), writing on March 1, tells of a visit to St. Sophia in Istanbul. When Miss Parsons was teaching in Brousa she visited this famous mosque many times, where faithful Moslems were always to be found engaged in prayer. This once sacred mosque is now a Museum of Byzantine art, although as yet no specimens of art have been brought in from outside. The building itself is the museum. Many beautiful mosaics have already been uncovered. The great shields bearing the names of the companions of the Prophet have been taken down and are standing against the wall. The carpets that used to lie slantwise so that worshipers might know how to face toward Mecca have been removed. "No one goes there now except the tourist or the student. If a poor Hamal wanders in and tries to start the Moslem prayers the guards gently but firmly take him out. I wandered all around, up to the place of the altar, and finally sat down on a pedestal of a column to try to make it seem real. Then I thought that for the first time in fifteen hundred years in that building no prayer might be uttered. I thought of December 1912 when the Bulgarian soldiers boasted that they would celebrate mass at St. Sophia, and how the Turkish authorities prevented them. Now mass and namaz alike are ended. And I said a little prayer all alone by myself to the Divine Wisdom which sees the end from the beginning and alone can understand."

ROADS TO HEALTH

The Home Secretary, Mrs. Chester Marliave, has a complete list of the hospitals and clinics maintained by our homeland societies. She can supply pictures and up-to-date information about these. Could not every society, while filling its quota, get from Mrs. Marliave information about these institutions to which it is contributing so generously of time and money, and so stimulate the interest in our mission work?

HELPFUL LEAFLET

Mrs. Harley H. Gill, Prayer Guild Secretary, recommends to all who would enrich their lives by means of more earnest private prayer the little pamphlet by Dr. George A. Buttrick, entitled "Technique of Private Prayer." In approaching God in prayer, Dr. Buttrick suggests one step after another, through silence, expectancy, confession, intercession, and consecration.

DR. LAUBACH TELLS OF WORK AMONG MOROS

The chapel of First Church, Oakland, was filled to capacity on March 19, when Dr. Frank C. Laubach addressed the women of the Federation. He told briefly of his work among the Mohammedans of the Philippines and of his invention of the alphabet which brought literacy to the Moro tribes. Later he adapted this alphabetical system to other dialects and languages until now thirty languages have been reduced to writing. Under the auspices of the Carnegie Corporation he is to visit Africa and South America next year to apply this system to the unwritten languages of the masses of those countries.

His spiritual message was soul searching as he directed our thoughts to **doing.** He said that Christ's emphasis was always upon deeds. As Jesus went about Galilee his thought seemed ever to be, "Whom can I help? Whom can I console? Who needs me next?" Too many Christians of today believe **in** Jesus but do not really believe him, for their acts do not bear out such belief. The failure of so-called Christians to apply the teachings of Christ in every day life presents the greatest hindrance to the spread of Christianity. The vast war machines of Christian nations, the selfish and unmoral aspects of business, racial prejudice, denominational differences, superficiality of much of the present day living, are contradictions to the Christlike way of life. When freed from its falseness, greed, and hatreds, Christianity will win the world.

MILL VALLEY CHURCH STUDIES SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Mrs. J. M. Burk, Social Action Secretary, reported that twenty-one churches of Northern California have Social Action committees and that seventeen others are corresponding about it. One of the outstanding pieces of work along this line is being done by the Federated Church of Mill Valley. Its pastor, Rev. Lynn White, and Mrs. E. A. Evans have been active in organizing and directing the work. Interest in the programs presented has been widespread through Marin County. The committee is composed of representatives of every organization of the church. The programs are educational in purpose. By means of lectures, panel discussions, informal addresses, and drama, vital issues of the day are presented. The subjects covered include arms and munitions, peace, cooperatives—both consumers' and self-help—and other matters of the day.

EAGER STUDENTS

More than 1200 students in Foochow, China, recently signed cards indicating their desire to study Christianity thoroughly. They listened eagerly to three Chinese Ph.D.'s touring China under a "Youth and Religion" banner. One of these was a Foochow man, staff member of Foochow College, who spoke in the local dialect and challenged the old adage that a prophet is without honor in his own country. Back of this remarkable response, however, lay days, weeks, months, yes, years, of daily Christian contacts among students when the teachers, both Chinese and foreign, exemplified the Christian faith and sowed the seeds for harvest later on.

THE COMMISSIONER

A commissioner is "one appointed to carry through," so said Mrs. H. F. Swartz, in discussing the duties of that office. Every church should appoint such a person, to be a link between the women of the church and the Federation. This power of appointment is often delegated to the woman's society and many of our commissioners are so chosen.

After every meeting of the Federation or of its Executive Committee the Corresponding Secretary sends a letter to every commissioner setting forth as vividly as possible the highlights of the meeting as well as the matters of business that were transacted. Then comes the task of the commissioner. She must digest this letter, must read between the lines, and must visualize all that transpired so that she can picture all this to her hearers when she reports. She is an ambassador indeed. She handles the quota for her society; she presents the literature, the thank offering, and the prayer guild material; she is responsible for reservations for all the larger meetings. She must be more than a mere transmitter of facts. She must be an inspirer. She must enthuse the members of her society. Only as she does all these things can the values of the Federation in their fullest reach the women of the churches.

AN OCTOGENARIAN'S PRAYER

(The following lines were sent by Mr. Harbutt, who is now well past 80. *He will be remembered by many as a former pastor in this Conference.)*

God of my life, who from my birth
Hast led my way through storm and stress,
By sea and land where dangers lurked—
A long and joyous pilgrimage,
Though mixed with things that tried the soul
Yet gave withal both home and love—
Now that the evening hour has come
The body fails, ambitions cease,
I pray Thee keep my mind undimmed,
My spirit free, my courage strong;
May weary hours find comfort yet
In memoried years I've walked with Thee,
And treasured stores from days long past.
Life's closing hours with joy inspire,
Foretelling more I yet shall see.
May still Thy guiding hand uphold,
And age be no sad fading out,
But calm, expectant, thrilled with hope
As radiant as a sunset glow;
Serenely waiting time's farewell,
Assured there waits new life Beyond,
Thus buoyant may the hours pass
In peace and quietude of heart.

—Robert G. Harbutt.

LAKESIDE CONFERENCE

Northern California will be represented at an international young people's conference at Lakeside, Ohio, during the latter part of June. "Sky" Neumann, at one time president of the Pilgrim Fellowship and in 1935 promotional director for the Asilomar conference, will serve as one of our two delegates. It is the hope of the Pilgrim Fellowship cabinet that the other delegate will be a young woman. Plans are under way now to find someone who will go and to secure the necessary travel expense.

ONE CHURCH SHOWS THE WAY

Every Congregationalist of northern California will rejoice to learn of the great victory of Oakland First Church. The building indebtedness, which has been annoying the members and hampering the progress of the church for years, has been paid in full and the mortgage has been released. This happy result came about because one woman believed that the anniversary of the church should not pass without an effort being made to free the church from the burden. The original attempt to secure $7,500 has resulted in paying the debt of $33,000.

SPECIAL TRAIN TO HOLYOKE

General Council delegates will be interested to know that a special train on the New York Central is being arranged, to leave Chicago Monday, June 15, at 2:45 p. m., arriving at Holyoke Tuesday morning at 9:55. A fleet of autos will meet the delegates that come on this train, and take them to the college. The equipment of the train will be the best. Final rates have not been announced because of the pending order for reduction of fares, made by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Reservations on the train should be made through Rev. H. D. Davies, 19 South LaSalle St., Chicago.

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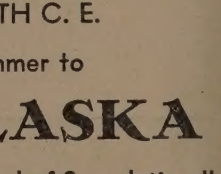

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